

**DOE News Release – Wildland fire status**

Date: Thursday, July 19, 2007

Time: 8:50 a.m.

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SIXTH FOLLOW-UP NEWS RELEASE FOR INL EMERGENCY

## **Wildland fire status at 8:50 a.m. July 19 – Fire has burned about 9,500 acres of sagebrush, grass**

Emergency response officials now estimate the rangeland fire on the southeastern edge of the Idaho National Laboratory Site has burned about 9,500 acres.

The fire is not threatening any INL facilities, and firefighters have contained about 10 percent of the blaze.

The active fire line is approximately two miles wide on the southeast side of the East Butte. It is now burning in a northeasterly direction. Wind speed is 14 mph.

One major facility – the Materials and Fuels Complex on the desert Site – is closed to day-shift workers, and they should not report to work Thursday. MFC is not expected to reopen today.

U.S. Highway 20 has reopened to traffic after being closed much of the night.

Other INL Site facilities will operate normal schedules Thursday, however, employees should call the INL bus hotline toll-free at 1-877-424-4635 for a recorded message on current bus operations.

Media should call (208) 526-9206, not your regular INL contacts. Employees and the public can call (208) 526-5042.

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Media Information: (208) 526-9206

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